DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
LIBRARY

Mountain Ash
Urban District Council

Medical Officer
of Health's

annual report 1969

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1969

by

J. Ll. WILLIAMS

M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. D.P.H.(Lond).

CONTENTS

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963	35
Births	9
Chemical and Bacteriological Examination	12-13
Cinematograph and Stage Play Licences	35
Cause of Death	8
Condemned Foods	33-34
Food and Drugs Act	22
Food Hygiene	22
General Health and Welfare Services	26-30
Ice Cream Regulations	22
Homesless Families - Intermediate Accommodation ...	25-26
Housing	24-25
Meals on Wheels Service	30
Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959	33
Mortality, Infant	4-6
Noise Abatement	35
Notifiable Diseases	10
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	36-36
Pet Animal Act	34
Pollution, Atmospheric	17-21
Pollution, River	16A
Public Health Committee	1
Public Health Inspectors, Summary of Work	32
Rag Flock and Other Materials Acts, 1951	35
Rainfall	See below
Refuse Disposal and Collection	16A
Report on Tuberculosis	11-12
Riding Establishment Act, 1964	35
Rodent Control	36-37
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal	16A
Sewer Treatment	37
Shops Act, 1950	23
Statistics, General	3
Statistics, Extracts from the Vital	3
Stillbirths	4
Swimming Baths and Paddling Pools	15-16
Water Supply and Sampling	13-14

Tables:	Infant Mortality	7
	Notified Cases of Tuberculosis	12
	Hospital and Sanatoria Cases	11
	Factories	38-39
	Water Supply	14
	Swimming and Paddling Pools	16
	Deposited Matter	See below

The graphs for Deposited Matter and Rainfall are contained in the Section relating to Atmospheric Pollution.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Day of Meeting:

First Tuesday of each month

Chairman:

Councillor W.J. Williams

Members:

Councillor A.S.J. Hillier
Councillor E. Pritchard
Councillor Miss. M. George
Councillor Mrs. M. Lewis
Councillor C.G. Owens
Councillor J. Lloyd
Councillor M. Mason
Councillor B. Williams
Councillor K.A. Penfold
Councillor P.V. Smith
Councillor W. Morgan
Councillor T.I.W.A. Davies
Councillor R.G. Owen
Councillor W.J. Northam
Councillor H. Phillips
Councillor C. Williams
Councillor G.E. Morgan
Councillor N.A. Thomas
Councillor J.L. Thomas
Councillor F.J. Brooks, J.P.

Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)	J.Ll. Williams, M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. D.P.H.(Lond).
Senior Public Health Inspector	G.M. James, M.A.P.H.I. Cert. Meats and Other Foods.
Public Health Inspector	R.G. Jones, Cert. P.H.I.E.B. M.A.P.H.I. A.R.S.H.
Public Health Inspector	G. Hughes-Williams, Dip. P.H.I.E.B.
Pupil Public Health Inspector	M. Jones.
Shops Inspector	R. Lewis.
Clerk	B. Davies.
Shorthand/Typist	Miss. J. Owens.

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S ANNUAL REPORT

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
The Poplars,
MOUNTAIN ASH.

Tel. No: Mountain Ash 3241

To: The Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash Urban District Council

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions of the District, and the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1969.

I wish to record my thanks to the Members of the Council for the interest they have shown in the Department, to the Clerk of the Council and Chief Officers for their ready co-operation and to Mr. G.M. James, Senior Public Health Inspector and the Staff of the Public Health Department.

Yours sincerely,

J.Ll. WILLIAMS.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

General Statistics

Area of District (in acres)	10,504
Census Population (1961)	29,575
Registrar's estimated population	28,130
Rateable value	£497,682
Sum represented by penny rate	£1,920

Vital Statistics

Live Births	449
Illegitimate live births per cent of Total live births	7.3
Live Birth Rate per 1000 population	15.9
Stillbirths	10
Rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths	21.9
Total live and stillbirths	459
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	11
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births - Total	24.4
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births - Legitimate	26.4
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births - Illegitimate.	-
Neo Natal Mortality rate per 1000 live births	15.5
Early Neo Natal Mortality rate	13.3
Perinatal Mortality rate	34.8
Maternal Mortality rate (including abortion)	-
Maternal Mortality rate per 1000 live and stillbirths	-

Deaths

Deaths that actually occurred in the district	290
Local residents who died outside the Area	111
Residents of other districts who died in the Mountain Ash area	3
Correct number of deaths	398

Three hundred and ninety eight deaths occurred among local residents giving a death rate of 14.1 per 1000.

Death Rate for 1968	13.11
Death Rate for England and Wales for 1969 per 1000 (crude)	11.9
For Glamorgan (Administrative County)	13.3
For Urban Districts	13.7
For Rural Districts	12.3

Infant Mortality And Peri-Natal Mortality, 1969

SOURCE	Infant Mortality Deaths under one year Rate per 1,000 live births	Peri-Natal Mortality Stillbirths & Deaths under one week	Rate per 1,000 live & stillbirths
England and Wales ..	18.0	18,894	23.0
Glamorgan County ...	20.0	366	30.0
Urban Districts	22.0	257	31.0
Rural Districts	17.0	109	27.0
Mountain Ash	24.4	16	34.8
Some larger Glamorgan Districts:			
Aberdare	20.0	21	32.0
Porthcawl	16.0	10	52.0
Bridgend	16.0	1	5.0
Caerphilly	25.0	29	36.0
Gelligaer	26.0	17	27.0
Maesteg	20.0	12	33.0
Neath Borough	24.0	9	23.0
Neath Rural	20.0	17	26.0
Pontypridd	22.0	21	38.0
Rhondda Borough	24.0	40	29.0

Stillbirths

The number of stillbirths registered was 10 of which 7 were male and 3 female. The stillbirth rate per 1000 registered live and stillbirths being 21.9.

Infant Mortality

The following table shows the Infantile Mortality - Deaths under One Year Rates per 1000 Births since 1921.

Year	England Wales	Mountain Ash	Year	England Wales	Mountain Ash
1921	83	83.2	1945	46	57.0
1922	77	85.3	1946	43	50.0
1923	69	64.2	1947	41	73.0
1924	75	74.0	1948	34	46.0
1925	75	88.7	1949	32	46.0
1926	70	69.7	1950	39.8	48.64
1927	69	89.5	1951	29.6	41.74
1928	65	70.9	1952	27.6	50.88
1929	74	70.9	1953	26.8	24.76
1930	60	84.3	1954	25.5	21.23
1931	66	72.6	1955	24.9	36.56
1932	65	88.3	1956	23.8	25.97
1933	64	69.0	1957	23.0	44.23
1934	59	67.4	1958	22.5	47.52
1935	57	87.0	1959	22.0	26.92
1936	59	68.1	1960	21.7	34.76
1937	58	84.8	1961	21.4	14.74
1938	53	45.7	1962	21.4	26.97
1939	50	76.9	1963	20.9	28.96
1940	55	54.0	1964	20.6	16.85
1941	59	65.0	1965	19.0	30.86
1942	49	45.7	1966	19.0	29.47
1943	49	46.4	1967	18.3	23.00
1944	46	51.9	1968	18.0	20.00
			1969	18.0	24.4

Neo-Natal Mortality

1951	18.8	23.50	1961	15.5	28.42
1952	18.9	24.56	1962	15.1	18.67
1953	17.7	17.14	1963	14.2	17.37
1954	17.7	10.62	1964	13.8	13.10
1955	17.3	27.96	1965	-	14.30
1956	16.9	17.32	1966	12.9	15.71
1957	16.5	28.85	1967	-	14.43
1958	16.2	31.68	1968	12.3	15.80
1959	15.8	26.92	1969	12.0	15.50
1960	15.6	24.54			

Perinatal Mortality

1959	34.2	54.00	1965	26.9	24.34
1960	32.9	58.94	1966	26.3	34.62
1961	32.2	32.85	1967	25.4	22.50
1962	30.8	42.25	1968	25.0	43.90
1963	-	37.70	1969	23.0	34.80
1964	28.2	32.19			

The following table gives the number of stillbirths per 1000 live and stillbirths since 1954.

1954	46.5
1955	29.2
1956	29.4
1957	33.4
1958	28.8
1959	31.1
1960	39.29
1961	24.64
1962	31.12
1963	26.64
1964	18.53
1965	16.78
1966	21.15
1967	8.1
1968	29.0
1969	21.9

Table of Infant Mortality during the year 196[illegible]

Cause of Death	Under 1 day		1 - 7 days		1 - 2 weeks		2 - 3 weeks		3 - 4 weeks	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cerebrovascular Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congential Anomalities	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Other Accidents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	6	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cause of Death	Over 4 weeks and Under 3 months		3 - 6 months		6 - 9 months		9 - 12 months	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cerebrovascular Disease	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congential Anomalities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
All Other Accidents	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-

Causes of Death

	Male	Female	Total
All Causes	234	164	398
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	-	3
Other Tuberculosis, incl. Late Effects ...	2	-	2
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	5	7	12
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	12	3	15
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	9	9
Malignant Neoplasm - Buccal Cavity	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	2	5	7
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm - Prostrate	1	-	1
Leukaemia	2	1	3
Other Diseases of Blood etc.	1	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	11	6	17
Diabetes Mellitus	2	6	8
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	-	1	1
Anaemias	1	1	2
Other diseases of Nervous system, etc. ...	2	-	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	4	4	8
Hypertensive Disease	4	7	11
Ischaemic Heart Disease	70	36	106
Other forms of Heart Disease	6	6	12
Cerebrovascular Disease	20	23	43
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	7	13	20
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Influenza	2	1	3
Pneumonia	7	9	16
Bronchitis and Emphysema	31	7	38
Asthma	-	2	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	10	1	11
Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	1	2
Other Diseases, Genito-urinary System	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Disease of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	2	-	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	4	-	4
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1	1
Symptoms and Ill-Defined conditions	1	2	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	2	3
All Other Accidents	6	-	6
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	-	-	-
All Other External Cases	2	-	2

The number of deaths in which Pneumoconiosis figured in the Death Certificates was: 7

The following table shows the number of deaths from Cancer in the area during the past five years.

	1965			1966			1967			1968			1969		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Stomach	4	5	9	6	3	9	5	4	9	6	6	12	5	7	12
Lung, Bronchus.	7	5	12	19	-	19	11	1	12	12	-	12	12	3	15
Breast	-	6	6	-	6	6	2	4	6	-	2	2	-	9	9
Uterus	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	4	4
Other	16	11	27	16	8	24	16	9	25	19	13	32	11	6	17
Totals	27	31	58	41	17	58	34	20	54	37	21	58	28	29	57

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	216	200	416
Illegitimate	12	21	33
	228	221	449

Birth rate per 1000 home population being 15.9
1968 birth rate per 1000 home population was 15.7
The birth rate for England and Wales being (crude) 16.3
The birth rate for Glamorgan (Adminstrative County) ... 16.3
The birth rate for Urban Districts (England & Wales)being 15.5
The birth rate for Rural Districts (England & Wales)being 18.2

Illegitimate Births

The number of illegitimate births registered was 33 of which 21 were girls and 12 were boys. No deaths occurred.

Notifiable Diseases

During the year the following notifications were received:

	Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	6	16	22
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	151	118	269
Dysentery	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Meningo Coccal Infection	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	3	3	6

The following table shows the incidence of confirmed infectious diseases during the past seven years.

Disease	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963
Scarlet Fever	22	11	14	13	28	24	18
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	269	252	72	276	110	99	341
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	6	-	3	-	10	3
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Meningococcal Infection .	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
Enteris Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	3	4	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	6	10	-	-	-	-	-

Annual Report of Food Poisoning Notification (corrected)

Food Poisoning notifications (corrected) returned to Registrar General - Total Outbreaks - 1 Total Number of known cases - 4

Food Poisoning

It is now the routine practice, on the advice of the Public Health Department, for all General Practitioners in the area to take faecal swabs from anyone reporting with continuing symptoms of diarrhoea following holidays abroad.

This procedure resulted in the discovery of three cases of Salmonella Typhimurium (all members of the same family) who had spent a holiday in Spain. Routine swabbing of the remaining family contacts brought to light a fourth case, the source of infection of which was considered to be domestic.

A fifth member of the family who did not become infected, but who was employed as a food handler, was excluded from work until the family infection had been cleared.

Tuberculosis

The number of new cases notified in 1969 was:

Tuberculosis - Pulmonary 6
Meningitis ..... -
Other Forms 1
Total during the year 7
Cases of Tuberculosis admitted to Sanatoria in 1969 - 4
Cases of Tuberculosis discharged from Sanatoria in 1969 - 2

The following table gives the age and sex distribution of persons notified as suffering from Tuberculosis and of those who died from the disease.

	New Cases Notified				Deaths			
Age Periods	Respiratory M.	F.	Other Forms M.	F.	Respiratory M.	F.	Other Forms M.	F.
0 to 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 24	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 44	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 to 64	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
65 and over ..	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
Age unknown ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	6	-	-	1	3	-	2	-

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district for the past 20 years.

Year	Cases Notified Respiratory	Cases Notified Other Forms	Deaths Respiratory	Deaths Other Forms
1950	44	7	18	6
1951	54	6	14	1
1952	59	6	16	-
1953	73	5	15	1
1954	52	4	9	-
1955	35	4	10	1
1956	28	4	5	-
1957	28	2	10	-
1958	23	1	39	-
1959	27	3	9	-
1960	28	3	11	-
1961	21	2	8	-
1962	12	2	1	-
1963	21	1	7	-
1964	14	1	5	-
1965	15	-	7	-
1966	10	1	3	1
1967	15	1	1	1
1968	5	1	2	1
1969	6	1	3	2

Chemical and Bacteriological Examinations

Arrangements for the chemical and bacteriological examinations of specimens from this area remain the same as in previous years.

With the exception of the Sputum Outfits (which are obtained from the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic) all other outfits for the collection and transmission of specimens can be obtained from the Public Health Department, The Poplars, Mountain Ash. Medical Practitioners within the area are aware of this fact, and are encouraged to use these facilities.

The following tables show the nature of specimens sent for examination and also the results:

A	B	C	D	E	F
Routine Examinations	Faecal Swabs	6	-	6	Council Employees
Routine Examinations	Urine	6	-	6	Council Employees
Dysentery	Faecal Swabs	22	-	22	Suspect Cases
Food Poisoning	Faecal Swabs	36	9	27	Not known

A - Disease suspected B - Type of Specimen C - Number taken
D - Positive result E - Negative result F - Source of Speciment

Water

The water undertaking for the Urban Area is the Taf Fechan Water Board. Although connections have been made to the existing supply mains in the area, with mains from outside the area, the main sources of supply, except when there may be a shortage of water, are those previously supplying the district. These are:

(1) Penderyn
(2) Clydach
(3) Darranlas
(4) Perthcelyn

with service reservoirs at:

(a) Buarth-y-Capel
(b) Abercynon
(c) Gilfach Rhyd
(d) Cefnpennar
(e) Penrhiwceiber High Service

The various schemes initiated by the Council to improve the water supply generally within the district, have however been continued.

Work which commenced during the previous year, for the provision of a Treatment and Purification Plant for the Clydach and Perthcelyn supplies, continued with satisfactory progress.

With the exception of a few isolated houses and farmhouses all premises in the area are supplied direct from public supply.

Water Supplies

Bacteriological and chemical analyses were made from samples taken from distribution points at weekly intervals. A table of bacteriological and chemical tests on the supplies is given below. The Taf Fechan Water Board were supplied with copies of the Analyst's reports.

Source of Supply		Results of Bacteriological Tests			
		Number Samples	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory	% Satisfactory
Penderyn Reservoir	Treated	100	72	28	72.0%
Perthcelyn Reservoir	Treated	73	55	18	75.3%
Clydach Reservoir	Treated	59	50	9	84.7%
Darranlas Reservoir	Treated	58	52	6	82.8%

Source of Supply		Results of Chemical Tests			
		Number Samples	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory	% Satisfactory
Penderyn Reservoir	Treated	100	96	4	96.0%
Perthcelyn Reservoir	Treated	73	72	1	98.6%
Clydach Reservoir	Treated	59	51	8	86.4%
Darranlas Reservoir	Treated	58	56	2	88.8%

Swimming Pools and Paddling Pools

There are four paddling pools and one open air swimming pool in the Urban Area. The swimming pool is situated at Gwernifor Grounds, Mountain Ash and the four paddling pools are situate as under:

(1) Gwernifor Grounds, Mountain Ash (Brynifor, Paddling Pool)

(2) Lee Gardens, Penrhiwceiber

(3) Parc Abercynon, Abercynon

(4) Ynysybwl Paddling Pool

The capacities of the swimming pool and paddling pools are:

Gwernifor Swimming Pool	150,000 gallons
Abercynon Paddling Pool	60,000 gallons
Penrhiwceiber Paddling Pool ...	40,000 gallons
Brynifor Paddling Pool	37,000 gallons
Ynysybwl Paddling Pool	13,500 gallons

The Gwernifor Swimming pool has a continous flow of water through a pressure filtration plant with coagulation and filtration. The rate of change of water in the baths is once in six hours. The paddling pools have a continous flow through Bell Brothers Purification Plants. The water undergoes chlorination by gaseous chlorine injection, and alum and soda ash treatment for coagulation and precipitation.

The Ynysybwl Paddling Pool was opened for use by the Public on 24th May, 1969. The pool is filtered by a Diatonaceous Earth Filtration plant, which gives a complete rate of change over seventy minutes.

Samples of the bath and pools water are taken during the bathing seasons, and the summary of results of the analyses of the samples are included in the appended tables.

Swimming and Paddling Pools

Bacteriological and chemical analyses were made from samples taken from Pools at weekly intervals during the season. Considered unsatisfactory were all samples where the Public Analyst had any adverse comments to make. A table showing results of bacteriological and chemical tests is given below:

Source of Supply		Results of Bacteriological Tests			
		Number Samples	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory	% Satisfactory
Gwernifor Swimming Pool	Deep	15	14	1	93.3%
	Shallow	15	15	-	100%
Penrhiwceiber Paddling Pool		15	11	4	73.3%
Abercynon Paddling Pool		15	14	1	93.3%
Brynifor Paddling Pool		15	12	3	80.0%
Ynysybwl Paddling Pool		15	15	-	100%

Source of Supply		Results of Chemical Tests			
		Number Samples	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory	% Satisfactory
Gwernifor Swimming Pool	Deep	15	13	2	86.6%
	Shallow	15	13	2	86.6%
Penrhiwceiber Paddling Pool		15	14	1	93.3%
Abercynon Paddling Pool		15	6	9	40%
Brynifor Paddling Pool		15	14	1	93.3%
Ynysybwl Paddling Pool		15	12	3	80.0%

River Pollution

The state of the River Cynon within the area has been maintained in a reasonably satisfactory condition throughout 1969, although some pollution of the river occurred upstream from outside the area.

In general, efforts to improve the cleanliness and purity of the waters of the several rivers in the area continue, and these efforts include close co-operation with the River Board; continual consultation with industrialists; prohibition of the discharge of effluents into the rivers and pre-treatment of trade effluents prior to the acceptance of these into the Council sewers. Improvements are also being brought about and maintained by constant surveillance of permanent washeries operated by the National Coal Board.

Refuse Disposal and Collection

The collection of household refuse is carried out under the direct control of the Engineer & Surveyor's Department. The frequency of refuse collection of both trade and household is as previously. Household refuse is collected twice weekly and trade refuse is collected once weekly. A charge is made for the collection of trade refuse and many traders throughout the area take advantage of the service.

The disposal of refuse from all parts of the Urban area is centred at the Pulverisation Plant at Pontcynon, where the domestic and trade refuse is resorted and processed before tipping on a nearby refuse tip. Some mechanical difficulties were experienced in the operation of the Plant during the year, which resulted in the tipping of crude refuse. Where possible this was covered by earth and innocuous materials.

Despite the fact that refuse bins have been distributed to householders, there is a considerable amount of indiscriminate tipping of rubbish in back lanes and on waste ground which is to be deprecated but difficult to stop without co-operation of the public, although every effort is made to do so.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

On the 1st June, 1969 work commenced to implement the scheme put forward jointly by the Mountain Ash and Aberdare Urban District Councils.

Atmospheric Pollution

Pollution of the air by the Phurnacite Plant affects part of both districts of Aberdare and Mountain Ash and consequently as reported in the previous Annual Report, it has become the practice for both Authorities to exchange information and views in relation to this joint problem. The Phurnacite Plant lies within the boundary of the Aberdare Urban District Council and is therefore the direct responsibility of that Authority. However, the liason between the two Authorities previously mentioned makes it possible for me as Medical Officer of Health for both Authorities to quote the report made in my capacity as Medical Officer of Health of Aberdare.

"1969 proved yet another year of persistent endeavour to reduce the level of pollution of the atmosphere arising from the Phurnacite Plant at Abercwmboi.

Many meetings were held at various levels with the National Coal Board, and at these meetings, every conceivable measure to reduce pollution at the plant was critically examined.

Throughout the year, the plant itself was kept under very careful surveillance, but despite everything that has been done, I regret that my report is not wholly encouraging.

To illustrate some of the difficulties that were encountered, mention must be made of the period in the middle of the year when the performance of the plant was particularly bad, in terms of atmospheric pollution.

It was only after careful and prolonged enquiry and not inconsiderable pressure on the management that it was acknowledged that this state of affairs was largely due to the use of unsuitable coal from a new source.

The problem was eventually resolved in October, 1969 when a system of "coal-blending" was successfully adopted.

It is generally known that in 1968 pursuant to planning consent, the New Number 6 Battery become operational, and 1969 saw its first year of uninterrupted production which provided an opportunity for assessing the extent to which the modifications and improvements incorporated in the battery, had contributed to a reduction in pollution.

A condition of the planning consent was that the detailed design for the new building should incorporate all such practicable constructional features as would be likely to reduce the incidence of atmospheric pollution and should include in particular an independent quenching tower designed to limit grit emission during quenching in the production process.

As a result, the Battery incorporated the following new features:

(1) Sealed Chamber method of charging the oven with improvement to the exhaust system.

(2) Grit arrester on the quenching process.

(3) Decarbonising system to prevent carbonising of the duct flues.

It is depressing to reflect that items (1) and (2) above, designed to limit the emission of dust and fumes from the charging and quenching processes respectively were suggested to the National Coal Board by the Aberdare Urban District Council as long ago as 1948, but were deemed by the Board then, and indeed until now, "to be impossible."

The main benefit to be expected from (3) above, i.e. the Decarbonising system was more even and consistent flow of heat throughout "the charge" in the oven, leading, to, not only a better final product, but more important from the point of view of pollution - a clearer and quicker discharge, when the ovens were emptied.

It is difficult for the general public to assess the benefits derived from these improvements because of the excessive pollution from the older batteries, but close observation of the charging, discharging and quenching processes, suggest that this new battery, although not free from pollution, is very much better in this respect, than the old ones.

It is, therefore, pertinent to note how soon the older batteries are likely to be replaced by ones similar to the new No. 6 Battery.

On the basis that each battery has a working life of 15 years, and provided that the National Coal Board adhere to their stated programme of replacements, the following timetable should apply:

Battery No:		Proposed date of complete renewal
1.	(Reconstructed and commission on 29th September, 1961 (originally built in 1942).	1976
2.	(Ceased operating on the 30th November, 1969 - replaced by No. 6 Battery).	
3.		1971
4.		1972
5.		1973
7.	New (Under construction incorporating refinements)	

This then is what can be expected if the Balfour Pilot Plant does not prove a success.

If, on the other hand, the Balfour Plant comes up to expectations, it is hoped that future replacements will be by this process and so see the end of the Disticoke batteries, which in spite of the improvement such as those on No. 6 Battery, are not in my opinion capable of complete control from the point of view of pollution.

In view of what has been said above, it is perhaps appropriate to conclude by summarising the position relating to the experimental Balfour Plant.

Readers of previous reports will recall the visit to the National Carbonising Company Limited at Mansfield in September, 1967, when, after inspecting the Balfour Retort process under operational conditions it was felt, and indeed National Coal Board representatives who were present were optimistic, that this process, if introduced at Abercwmboi, would indeed provide the solution to the atmospheric pollution experienced there.

1969 saw the actual construction of a 125 ton per day Balfour pilot plant at the Phurnacite Plant and the first trial run took place in September of that year. Regrettably its initial trial run lasted only 36 hours when the plant developed faults which caused its hurried shut-down. These faults took the form of a mass consolidation of the waste gas tubes and ducting by pitch with entrained dust, and it became necessary to dismantle a large part of the plant in order to remove the obstruction.

It was evident from my talks with persons involved in the design and construction of the plant that large scale modifications would have to be made before further trials could begin. The end of the year saw "Balfour" awaiting modifications which were, in fact, well in hand at that time. It is more that unfortunate that the plant got off to a bad start and I only hope the troubles are smaller than I imagine."

Reports to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research are now given in metric measurement and from next year onwards, in order to standardise, it will be necessary for me to report results in the metric form.

The results of the analysis of samples taken at the various Stations are included in the tables which follow.

As a rough guide to the appropriate standard of atmospheric pollution to be expected in the various types of area throughout the country, the following table is included:

(a) Clean ..... less than 12.5 tons per sq. mile
(b) Fairly Clean ..... 12.5 - 37.5 tons per sq. mile
(c) Dirty ..... 37.5 - 62.5 tons per sq. mile
(d) Very Dirty ..... more than 62.5 tons per sq. mile

Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution

Below is a table of analysis of samples of deposited matter collected from sites in the Mountain Ash area. The figures denote estimated total solids in tons per square mile.

Mountain Ash

Collection Point	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Hibernian Club, Mountain Ash	28.71	12.18	20.16	-	26.40	15.96
Workmen's Hall, Ynysybwl	-	10.73	17.08	-	16.17	11.14
Parc Abercynon, Abercynon	-	-	-	-	9.24	7.28
Comprehensive School, Mountain Ash	45.21	-	24.36	-	41.91	50.68

Collection Point	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Hibernian Club, Mountain Ash.	20.48	10.80	-	18.00	22.41	24.96
Workmen's Hall, Ynysybwl	9.57	8.40	11.96	11.52	14.31	-
Parc Abercynon, Abercynon	10.89	23.40	3.78	9.72	10.53	12.80
Comprehensive School, Mountain Ash	12.80	8.40	99.32	83.88	51.57	32.32

Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution

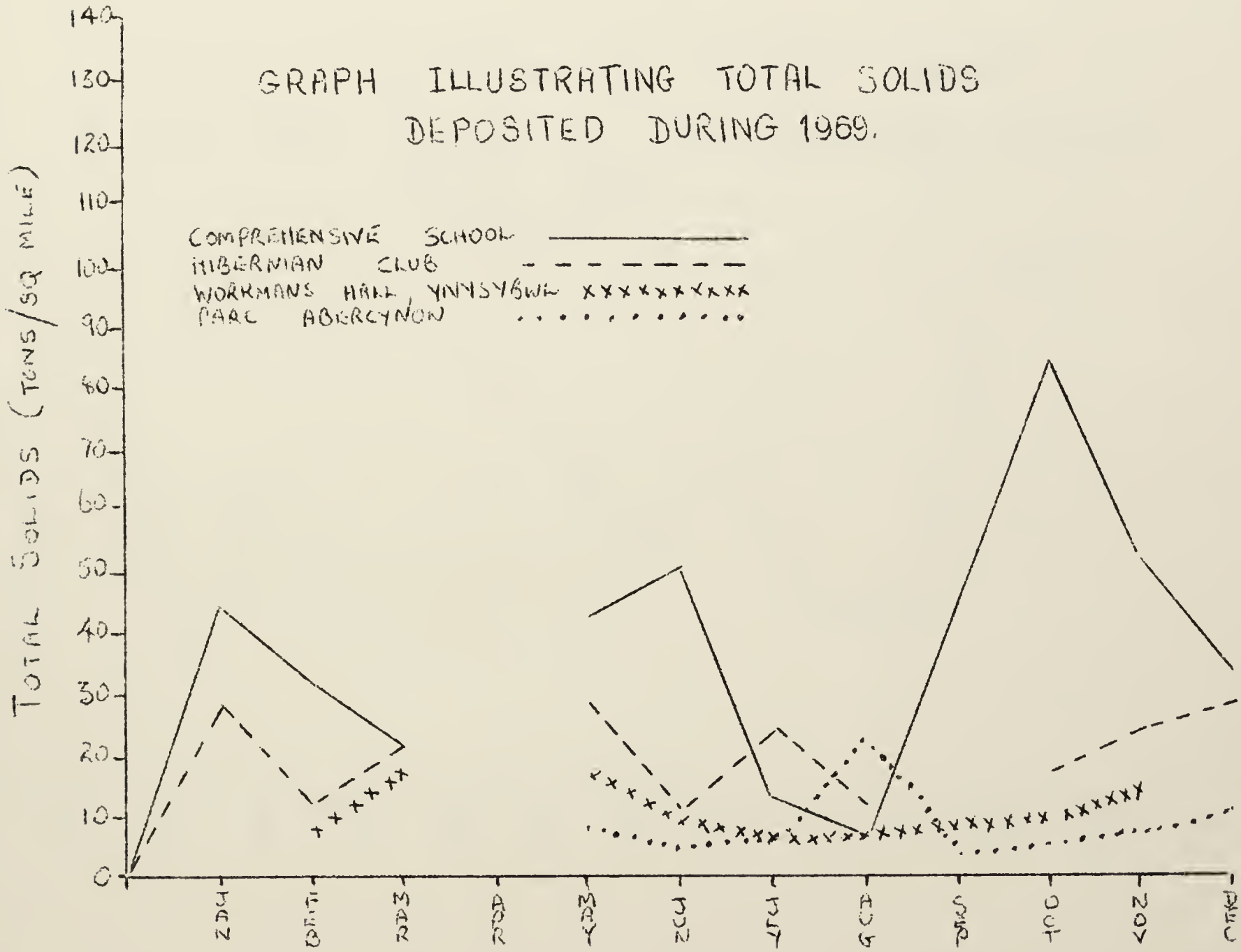
Below is a table of analysis of samples of deposited matter collected from sites in the Aberdare area. The figures denote estimated total solids in tons per square mile.

Aberdare

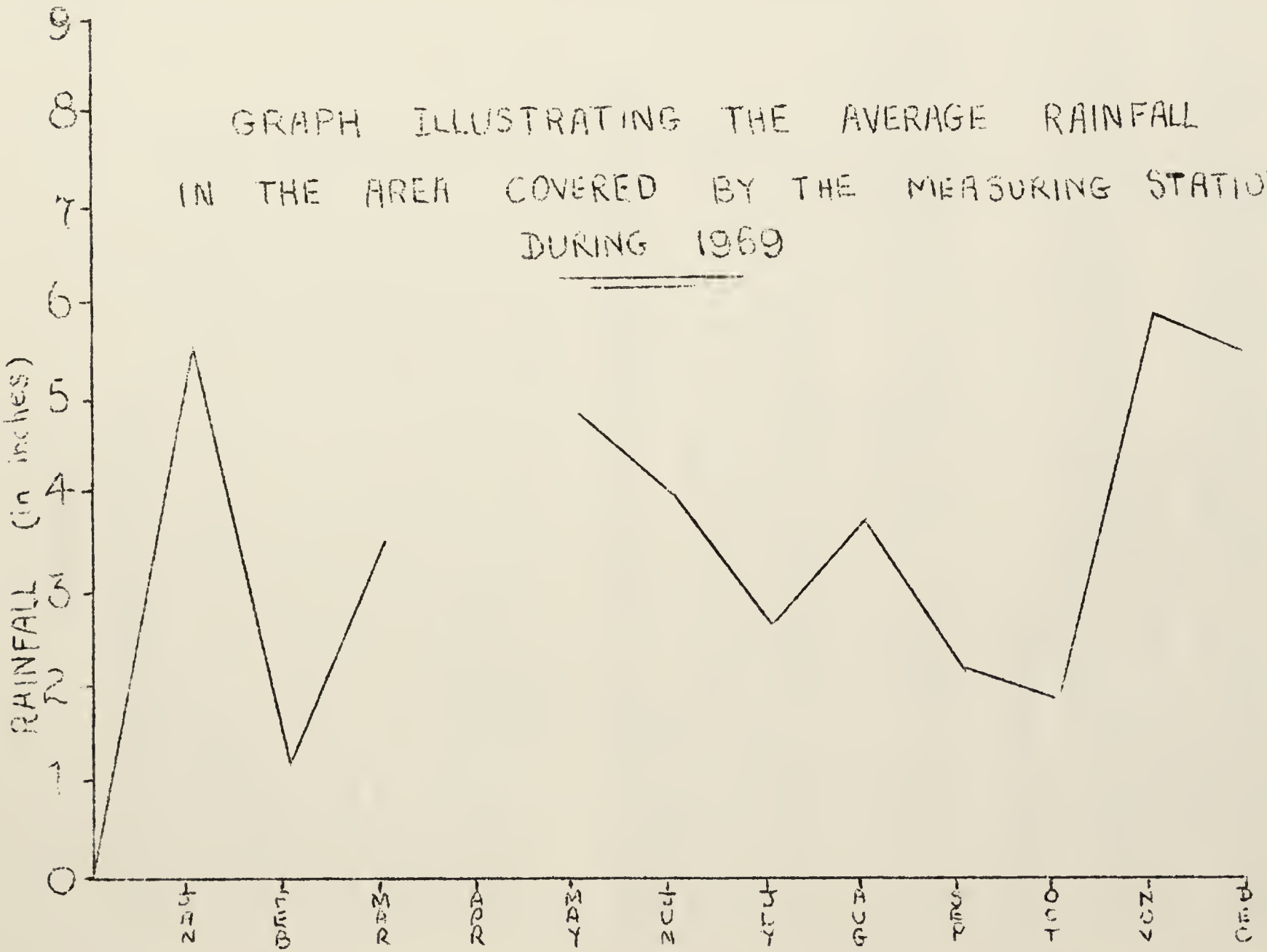
Collection Point	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Aberdare & Dist. Co-op (Central) Aberdare	20.70	-	16.74	-	15.68	9.92
Aman School, Godreaman	14.10	11.20	13.02	8.64	12.04	13.02
Abercwmboi School, Abercwmboi	12.60	15.40	29.45	23.36	12.40	12.40
Duffryn Row, Cwmbach	30.60	17.36	22.63	10.88	50.40	13.46

Collection Point	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Aberdare & Dist. Co-op (Central) Aberdare	15.04	13.53	10.80	9.52	-	-
Aman School, Godreaman	10.24	14.19	18.63	7.48	17.64	11.55
Abercwmboi School, Abercwmboi	-	16.83	42.66	11.22	16.24	-
Duffryn Row, Cwmbach	-	-	-	-	-	-

The record for the Duffryn Row Site, Cwmbach is incomplete due to Civil Engineering activities in the area which entailed the disturbance of the bowl on several occasions. An alternative site was eventually established at the Servini's Factory Site in Cwmbach, and reports upon this site will appear in the next Annual Report.


GRAPH ILLUSTRATING TOTAL SOLIDS DEPOSITED DURING 1969.
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL
HIBERNIAN CLUB
WORKMANS HALL YNYSYBWL
PARC ABERCYNON
TOTAL SOLIDS (TONS/SQ MILE)
140
130
120
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0

GRAPH ILLUSTRATING THE AVERAGE RAINFALL IN THE AREA COVERED BY THE MEASURING STATIONS DURING 1969



Food Hygiene

(1) Number of Food Premises in the area:

Wholesale Greengrocers	2
Grocery and Provision Dealers	54
General Dealers	101
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	20
Fishmongers	1
Refreshment Dealers	12
Butchers	26
Fish Fryers	20
Confectioners	2
Bakeries	2
Licensed Premises (Public Houses and Clubs)	50
Wholesale Grocers	1
Wholesale Confectioners	1
Canteens - Colliery	4
Schools	9
Factories	4

(2) Number of Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-cream	3
Sale of Ice-cream	96
Fried Fish and Chipped Potatoes	20
Butchers Smalls	7
Distributors registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959	12

(3) As a result of visits to food premises it was found necessary to draw the attention of shop keepers to the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations, but in general the shops were found to be satisfactory.

(4) Ice-Cream Regulations

As previously reported most of the Ice-cream sold in the area is pre-packed and manufactured by large Ice-cream manufacturing firms, but there are four registered premises within the area manufacturing Ice-cream.

During the year 12 samples of Ice-cream were taken from premises registered for the sale and manufacture of Ice-cream. The Analyst's reports indicated that all were Grade 1 and satisfactory.

Shops Act, 1950

The shops in the Urban Area were regularly visited by the Shops Inspector in order to assure compliance with the Act.

Below is a classification of the shops in the area other than those included in the section of Food Hygiene:-

Corn and Seed Merchants	3
Chemists	10
Departmental Stores	1
Drapers	30
Electrical Dealers	3
Furniture and Hardware Dealers	11
Hairdressers	22
Ironmongers	8
Jewellers	1
Boot and Shoe Dealers and Repairers	21
Dry Cleaners	3
Motor/Cycle Accessories	11
Radio and T.V. Dealers	2
Newsagents and Stationers	14
Outfitters	6
Photographers	1
Decorators	3
Opticians	4
Toys and Leather Goods	2
Carpet Dealer	1
Motor Car Showrooms	4
Florist	1
Fire Appliance and Central Heating	2

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

I give below a statement showing the number of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers in the Mountain Ash Urban Area during the year ended 31st December, 1969.

Sample	No. Taken
Butter	3
Cake Sponge Pastry Mix	1
Cream	1
Coffee and Chicory	3
Fruit Juice	1
Glucose	1
Lard	1
Meat Products (Canned)	2
Margarine	3
Milk	2
Soda Water	1
Soft Drinks	4
Tea	1
Shandy	1
Sucron	1

I am indebted to Dr. W.E. Thomas, County Medical Officer of Health for supplying me with the above information.

Three complaints were received of articles of food containing foreign bodies. The complaints were passed for necessary action to the Glamorgan County Council which is the Food and Drugs Authority for this area.

HOUSING
Housing Act, 1957

Action was taken under the Housing Act, 1957 in respect of individual dwellings which were found to be unfit within the meaning of the Act.

The premises were dealt with as under:

Number of premises subject to Closing Orders (Section 17) 12
Number of premises subject to Demolition Orders (Section 17) .. 25
Premises for which undertakings were accepted ..... Nil

The number of families rehoused by the Council from dwellings which were subject to Closing Orders and Demolition Orders were 14 and the number of families privately rehoused was three.

Discretionery and Standard Grants

Discretionery and Standard Grants for improvements of houses are made available by the Council to property owners:

Completed:

Discretionery Grants	44
Standard Grants	29

Applications:

Discretionery Grants	38
Standard Grants	32

Rent Act, 1957

Certificates of Disrepair

1.	Number of Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.....	1
2.	Number of Decisions not to issue Certificates	Nil
3.	Number of Decisions to issue Certificates	Nil
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects .	1
	(b) in all respects of all defects	Nil
4.	Number of Undertakings given by Landlord under Para 5 of First Schedule	Nil
5.	Number of Certificates issued	Nil
6.	Applications by Landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of Certificates	Nil
7.	Certificates cancelled	Nil

Homeless Families
Intermediate Accommodation

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 21(1)(b)

In 1964 there was provided at the old Isolation Hospital, Llanwonno Road, Mountain Ash, four units of Intermediate Accommodation. This scheme, designed to help homeless families is administered by a Joint Committee of the Aberdare, Pontypridd and Mountain Ash Urban District Councils. This scheme receives financial assistance from the Glamorgan County Council.

The functions of the joint committee are:-

(1) To select tenants to occupy the accommodation from 'Homeless Family' cases presented to them by the Medical Officer of Health for the three Councils.

(2) To review, in the light of Reports by the said Medical Officers of Health, the progress of any "Problem Families" so accommodated, towards rehabilitation.

(3) To decide when tenancies shall be terminated, subject, however, to a maximum period in all cases of six months.

(4) To commend to the Council from whose district any tenant is admitted to the accommodation any such tenant considered worthy of normal rehousing in the District concerned, whether as a result of rehabilitation or otherwise.

The term "Homeless Families" includes not only "Problem Families" from Council owned and private accommodation in the three districts, but also those rendered homeless for any other cause and for whom no other normal housing accommodation is immediately available.

The main advantage of this type of accommodation is that it caters for the wholefamily unlike that provided by the Welfare Department of the Glamorgan County Council, where accommodation is only available for the mother and children.

Whenever units become vacant they are repeatedly being extensively damaged by vandals. This has incurred, unfortunately, extra expense in the operation of this scheme.

In 1969 three families were temporarily housed within this scheme and of these three families one family purchased their own house, one family vacated the tenancy before the six month period terminated and the third family remained in tenancy into 1970.

****

GENERAL HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES OF THE DISTRICT

1. Services Provided by the Glamorgan County Council:

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, School Medical and Health Visiting:

These services are ministered by the

Divisional Health Officer,
Headquarters: Divisional Health Offices,
New Clinic Buildings,
Rock Grounds, Aberdare.
Tel: Aberdare 2497/8.

For the residents of Ynysybwl, the services are administered by

Divisional Health Officer,
Headquarters: Divisional Health Offices,
Courthouse Street,
Pontypridd.
Tel: Pontypridd 2275/6.

(b) Mental Health Services:

The duly authorised officers for this area are:

Miss. A.M.D. Thomas,
4 Cledwyn Terrace,
Aberdare.
Tel: Aberdare 2942.

Mr. D. Davies,
12 New Street,
Tonna, Neath.
Tel: Neath 4319.

(c) Ambulance Service:

The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at:

Hawthorne Pontypridd.
Tel: Pontypridd 2522.

(d) Welfare Services:

Officers of the Welfare Department are available to offer advice and assistance to those in need of hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped.

The local offices for the area are:

(a) Area Office, Llewellyn Street,
Trecynon, Aberdare.
Tel: Aberdare 3018.

(b) County Offices, Courthouse Street,
Pontypridd.
Tel: Pontypridd 2275/6.

(e) Children's Department:

The office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at:

Greyfriar's Road, Cardiff.
Tel: Cardiff 28033.

(f) Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages:

Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.
Tel: Pontypridd 3122.

The local offices are situated at:

53 Commercial Street,
Mountain Ash.
Tel: Mountain Ash 2792.

Monday and Thursday: 9.30 a.m.-
1 p.m. and 2.0 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Wednesday: 9.30 a.m. - 1.0 p.m.
Friday: 2.45 p.m. - 5.0 p.m.

1 Ynysmeurig Road,
Abercynon.

Tuesday: 2.15 p.m. - 4.15 p.m.
Friday: 12.15 p.m. - 1.15 p.m.

Workmen's Hall,
Ynysybwl.

Tuesday: 10.15 a.m. - 12.15 p.m.
Friday: 10.15 a.m. - 11.15 a.m.

(g) Probation Officer:

The address of the Principal Probation Officer is at:

15 Gelliwastad Road,
Pontypridd.
Tel: Pontypridd 3498.

The local office is at:

Probation Officer Office,
21 Cardiff Street,
Aberdare.
Tel: Aberdare 2901.

2. Services Provided by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board:

Hospital facilities for the area are ministered by:

(a) The Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee: The office of this Committee is at:

St. Tydfil's Hospital,
Merthyr Tydfil.
Tel: Merthyr 3401.

(b) The Pontypridd and Rhondda Hospital Management Committee: The office of this Committee is at:

Albert Road,
Pontypridd.
Tel: Pontypridd 404121.

(c) Chest Clinics:

Melbourne House, Penrhiwceiber Road, Penrhiwceiber. The Clinic is open on Tuesday and Friday mornings: (10 a.m. to 12 noon) and once monthly for Contact Clinic.

Tel: Mountain Ash 2719.

Glen View, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd. (Open Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m. to 12 noon).

Tel: Pontypridd 2204.

3. Services Provided by Government Departments:

(a) Ministry of Social Security:

Central Office (Wales) is at:

Government Buildings,
St. Agnes Road, Gabalfa,
Cardiff.
Tel: Cardiff 62131.

Local Offices:

Duffryn Road, Mountain Ash.
Tel: Mountain Ash 2215.

Park Buildings, Pontypridd.
Tel: Pontypridd 3081.

Area Offices:

Glanynys, Cwmbach Road,
Aberdare.
Tel: Aberdare 2343.

The Grange, 58 Tyfica Road,
Pontypridd.
Tel: Pontypridd 2295.

(b) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel:

The office is situated at the East entrance:

Prudential Buildings,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff.
Tel: Cardiff 26161.

4. General Practitioner Services:

This service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive Council of:

Churchill House,
Churchill Way,
Cardiff.
Tel:Cardiff 26216

(National Health Council).

5. National Assistance Act, 1948 - Burial of the Dead:

During the year no applications were made to the Local Authority for assistance for Burial under the provisions of the above Act.

****

Meals on Wheels Service

The Urban area is divided into five delivery areas and these are, together with the number of persons receiving meals during the year ending 31st December, 1969, as set out hereunder:

Duffryn	67
Darranlas	68
Penrhiwceiber	70
Abercynon	65
Ynysybwl	63

The suppliers of the meals Messrs. J.F. Everest, Bridgend, cater at Messrs. A.B. Electronic Components Ltd., where the Council obtain meals for two meals per week and also for Messrs. Carpet Products Ltd., from whom the third meal is obtained.

The relationship between both Canteens, their Staffs, the Department and the Driver Attendants is excellent and the smooth operation of the Meals on Wheels Service in the area continued as in previous years.

The following statistics have been compiled and cover the year ending 31st December, 1969.

Total number of meals delivered since the inception of the service	127,495
Total number of meals delivered from 1st January, 1969 to 31st December, 1969	34,591
Number of new customers accepted during the year	50
Cancellations due to death	40
Cancellations due to illness, diets, moving to relatives, etc.	101
Total number of customers on list	333
Number of full-time Driver Attendants	6
Number of vans covering the area	3
Number of relief Driver Attendants	3

J. Ll. Williams,

Medical Officer of Health.

Summary of Work Done by the Public Health Inspectors

Number of premises inspected and revisited	522
Number of Notices served under:	
Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936:	
Informal	144
Statutory	68
General Repairs -	
Chimneys and fireplaces	14
Roofs	31
Eavesgutters and downpipes	14
External walls	6
Windows and doors	33
Internal walls, partitions and ceilings	14
Floors	9
Internal Staircases	3
Cupboards and Skirting	2
Sculleries and Pantries	3
Yard pavements and steps	1
Wash houses and coal houses	-
Boundary and forecourt walls	5
Repairs to water services	7
Accumulations removed	5
Garden retaining walls	3
Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936:	
Number of Notices served	8
Drainage:	
Cleansed, repaired and relaid	16
Drains tested	62
Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936:	
Number of Notices served	25
Section 47, Public Health Act, 1936:	
Number of Notices served	1
Sanitary Conveniences:	
General Repairs	23
Waterflushing apparatus repaired or renewed	13
Watercloset pans renewed	2
Infectious Diseases:	
Number of cases visited	22
Disinfection:	
Number of premises disinfected after infectious disease	22
Number of dirty or verminous premises disinfected	46

Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 47

Under the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council are able to pay half the reasonable cost of the conversion of closets to waterclosets. During the year the following conversions were undertaken:

Number of closets converted to waterclosets on application from the owner	34
Number of closets converted to waterclosets as a result of the service of a Statutory Notice	1

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The supervision of the retail distribution of milk is the duty of the local authority, although the licensing authority for the Designated Milks is the Glamorgan County Council.

During the year 20 samples of milk were taken for Bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Cardiff: all were satisfactory.

Foods Condemned During 1968 and 1969

1968

A total of approximately 7cwt. 2qtrs. 1lb. of foodstuffs was found to be unfit for human consumption on examination and was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:

Tinned Cooked Ham	84 lbs.
Tinned Cream	14 ozs.
Tinned Sweets	58 lbs.
Tinned Soups / Stews	4 lbs.
Tinned Baked Beans	4 lbs.
Sliced Bacon	10 lbs.
Tinned Spaghetti	2 lbs.
Tinned Puddings	7 lbs.
Tinned Fish	15 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables	33 lbs.
Tinned Meats	109 lbs.
Tinned Syrup	4 lbs.
Frozen Fish	52 lbs.
Frozen Pastries	17 lbs.
Orange Juice	40 fl. ozs.

Tinned Baby Food	7 ozs.
Packets Table Jellies	4 lbs.
Tinned Chicken	10 ozs.
Cheese Portions	6 lbs.
Tinned Spinach	4 ozs.
Bottles Sauces	3 lbs.
Tinned Tomatoes	138 lbs.
Tinned Cond/Evap Milk	15 lbs.
Tinned Fruit	152 lbs.
Frozen Vegetables	54 lbs.
Frozen Meats	48 lbs.
Frozen potatoes	17 lbs.

1969

A total of approximately 10cwt. 0qtrs. 26lbs. of foodstuffs was found to be unfit for human consumption on examination, and was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:-

Tinned Baked Beans	7 lbs.
Tinned Meats	31 lbs.
Tinned Soups / Stews	37 lbs.
Tinned Tomatoes	102 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables	33 lbs.
Tinned Fish	10 lbs.
Frozen Meats	26 lbs.
Frozen Vegetables	93 lbs.
Cream	6 fl. ozs.
Chickens	121 lbs.
Butter	56 lbs.
Cheese	120 lbs.
Tinned Baby Food	¼ lb.
Cooked Ham	50 lbs.
Tinned Fruit	60 lbs.
Tinned Puddings	2 lbs.
Frozen Fish	60 lbs.
Frozen Pastry	23 lbs.
Evap / Cond Milk	2 pts.
Table Jellies	¾ lb.
Fresh Meat	295 lbs.
Jams	15 lbs.
Mineral Drinks	20 fl. ozs.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Premises which sell pet animals are subject to annual licence issued by the Local Authority. No applications were received during the year.

Rag Flock and Other Materials Act, 1951

One factory in the area is registered as an upholstery premises.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

One premises in the Urban area applied for the renewal of its licence in respect of boarding animals under the above Act. The Veterinary Surgeon engaged by the Council made periodic inspections during the year to ensure that the provisions of the Act were fulfilled.

Riding Establishments Act, 1964

There is one Riding Establishment licenced by the Authority in the area. This premises was inspected by the Council's Veterinary Surgeon and the licence renewed. Quarterly inspections were made of the premises and the horses to ensure that the provisions of the Act were fulfilled and the conditions found reported to the Council. The reports submitted indicated that the owners of the establishment conformed to the provisions and cared well for the animals.

Noise Abatement

There were but very few minor complaints received of noise nuisance and these were dealt with informally.

Cinematograph and Stag Play Licences

All cinemas or halls in the area which are subject to licences for cinematograph or stage play performances were inspected during the year by the Public Health Inspectors special attention being paid to cleanliness, condition of seats and sanitary conveniences. There are four such premises within the Urban Area.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Inspection of shops and offices continued during the year. The required annual return, as prescribed, was submitted to the Ministry of Labour indicating the number of premises registered together with the number of persons employed. The details as included in the annual return are as below:

Number of Premises registered during 1969	5
Number of Females employed	5
Number of Males employed	2
Total number employed	7

Class of Premises	Number Registered	Number of Persons employed
Offices	40	116
Retail Shops	169	585
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	3	15
Catering Establishments	28	82
Fuel Depots	Nil	Nil

It is the duty of the Local Authority to investigate accidents to employees occurring in the premises to which the Act applies, together with the action taken in respect of such accidents.

There were two accidents reported and investigated during 1969. In both cases the employers were formally warned by the Council.

Rodent Control

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Two full-time Rodent Operatives are employed by the Council under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors. During the year apart from notified infestations treated, surveys of the area including premises, riverbanks, streams and refuse tips were made and any infestations located were treated.

The public is generally co-operative in notifying the Department of the presence of any rats and mice and such co-operation is essential to a successful service.

The previous policy of the Council remains in respect of
(a) free treatment for private premises,
and
(b) a charge for business premises.

The poison used by the Council for the treatment of all infestations is Warfarin. This poison is one of a number of poisons known as "anti-coagulants," it does not cause bait or poison shyness and therefore no pre-baiting is done, as is necessary with poisons such as Zinc Phosphide and Arsenious Oxide.

A summary of the treatment of surface infestation is as under:

	Rats	Mice
Number of business premises treated	20	3
Number of dwelling houses treated	266	59
Number of schools and school kitchens treated	14	4
Number of watercourses treated	89	-

Number of embankments treated	148	-
Number of river embankments treated	46	-
Number of refuse tips treated	8	-
Number of sewage beds treated	5	-
Number of rereation grounds treated	1	-
Number of allotments treated	6	-
Number of Local Authority premises treated ...	5	-
Number of back lanes treated	49	-
Number of housing sites treated	2	-
Number of Canal Bank Sections treated	4	-
Number of Cemeteries treated	-	-
Number of Dwelling Houses Surveyed	78	-

Sewer Treatment

Two maintenance treatments of the sewers throughout the area were carried out with the results as set out in the table below. The treatments were carried out in accordance with the recommendation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and on both treatments the bait used was Warfarin, to Ministry of Agriculture specifications.

Set out below is a table of treatment results:

Number of manholes	Number Baited	Number of complete and good takes	Number of small takes	Number of No takes	Number of Manholes not baited
677	428	23	91	314	249
677	670	23	97	550	7

Factories

	No. on Register	Inspec-tions	Written Notices	Prose-cutions
(1) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	1	3	-	-
(2) Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Authority ...	51	49	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers premises)	6	15	-	-
Totals	58	67	-	-

2 - Cases in which Defects were found -

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S1) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (4)	to H.M. Inspector (5)	
ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7) (a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

Number of Outworkers 1

G.M. JAMES.

Senior Public Health Inspector.